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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/689,775

10/20/2003

Han-Ting Chang

2002-061R1

4543

22905

7590

05/17/2006

SYMYX TECHNOLOGIES INC
LEGAL DEPARTMENT
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SANTA CLARA, CA 95051

EXAMINER

CHEUNG, WILLIAM K

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1713

DATE MAILED: 05/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/689,775

Applicant(s)

CHANG ET AL.

Examiner

William K. Cheung

Art Unit

1713

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 May 2006.
2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9, 12-19, 22 and 23 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9, 12-19, 22, 23 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Request for Continued Examination

1. The request filed on May 4, 2006 for a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.53(d) based on parent Application No. 10/689,775 is acceptable and a RCE has been established. An action on the RCE follows.
2. In view of amendment filed April 21, 2006, new claim 23 has been added. Claims 1-9, 12-19, 22, 23 are pending.

Double Patenting

3. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Art Unit: 1713

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

4. Claims 1-9, 12-19, 22, 23 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-20 of U.S. Patent No. 6,395,850. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the invention of claims 1-20 of U.S. Patent No. 6,395,850 fully encompasses the invention of Claims 1-9, 12-19, 22, 23 of instant application.

5. Claims 1-9, 12-19, 22, 23 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 8-16, 20-26 of U.S. Patent No. 6,767,968. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the invention of claims 8-16, 20-26 of U.S. Patent No. 6,767,968 fully encompasses the invention of Claims 1-9, 12-19, 22, 23 of instant application.

6. Claims 1-9, 12-19, 22, 23 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-13 of U.S. Patent No. 6,569,969. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the invention of claims 1-13 of U.S. Patent No. 6,569,969 fully encompasses the invention of Claims 1-9, 12-19, 22, 23 of instant application.

Applicant's arguments filed November 28, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicants argue that the instantly claimed invention is not anticipated by claims 1-20 of U.S. Patent No. 6,395,850, claims 8-16, 20-26 of U.S. Patent No. 6,767,968, and claims 1-13 of U.S. Patent No. 6,569,969 because claims 1-20 of U.S. Patent No. 6,395,850, claims 8-16, 20-26 of U.S. Patent No. 6,767,968, and claims 1-13 of U.S. Patent No. 6,569,969 are silent on the specific type of monomers in the presence of dithio control agents being claimed. However, the examiner disagrees because the monomers being claimed are not specific but rather broad in teachings. Applicants must recognize that monomers are generally hydrophilic or hydrophobic, and olefins are generally hydrophobic. In view of such limited species, the ODP set forth is proper.

Regarding applicants argument that the claimed method invention involves making a block copolymer which can modify the surface tension of an olefinic substrate by an amount of at least 10 mN/m with the claimed block copolymer, applicants fail to recognize that the claimed "modify the surface tension of an olefinic substrate by an amount of at least 10 mN/m with the claimed block copolymer" is a property that can be inherent to the copolymers of claims 1-20 of U.S. Patent No. 6,395,850, claims 8-16, 20-26 of U.S. Patent No. 6,767,968, and claims 1-13 of U.S. Patent No. 6,569,969. Therefore, the ODP set forth is proper.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8. Claims 1-9, 12-19, 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Charmot et al. (US 6,395,850) for the reasons adequately set forth from paragraph 7 of the office action of February 13, 2006.

Applicant's arguments filed April 11, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicants argue that independent claims 1, 12, and 22 require specific types of monomers to be polymerized in a specific order to create specific types of polymers. However, the examiner disagrees because the claimed feature "hydrophilic block" encompasses a large group of non-specific monomers. Applicants must recognize that monomers are generally "hydrophilic" or "hydrophobic".

Regarding applicants' argument that the claimed method invention involves a specific order of the polymerization of monomers, applicants fail to recognize that the two steps polymerization process as claimed is a very simple process which is typical to

most polymerization processes for making a block copolymer with the sequential addition of comonomers.

Regarding applicants argument that the claimed method invention involves making a block copolymer which can modify the surface tension of an olefinic substrate by an amount of at least 10 mN/m with the claimed block copolymer, applicants fail to recognize that the claimed "modify the surface tension of an olefinic substrate by an amount of at least 10 mN/m with the claimed block copolymer" is a property that can be inherent to the copolymers of Charmot et al.

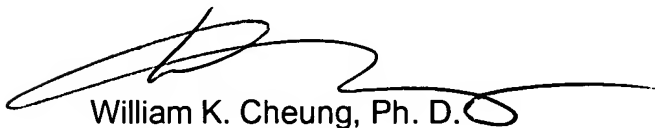
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William K. Cheung whose telephone number is (571) 272-1097. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:00AM to 2:00PM; 4:00PM to 8:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David WU can be reached on (571) 272-1114. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 1713

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



William K. Cheung, Ph. D.

Primary Examiner

May 15, 2006

WILLIAM K. CHEUNG
PRIMARY EXAMINER